

Schumpf and Miller Stores
155 and 157 West California Street
Jacksonville
Jackson County
Oregon

HABS No. ORE-122

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PHOTOGRAPH

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY HABS No. ORE-122

SCHUMPF AND MILLER STORES

Location: 155 and 157 West California Street, Jacksonville,
Jackson County, Oregon.

PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

Like the Masonic Lodge, the land upon which the Schumpf and Miller stores stand was once part of the Eldorado Saloon lot. In 1863, Dr. Riddle advertised his offices on the south side of California Street one door east of the Eldorado Saloon.¹ On the 1868 map, the buildings behind the saloon itself are shown as a bakery, bootblack, and grocery²--the bootblack could have been "Sam," who advertised "Boots Polished Artistically!"³ The site was claimed by both W.A. and Julia Owen and by Patrick McMannus. In 1872, when the Owens sold their interest to James Drum, the lot was described as a fifty-by-twenty-five-foot parcel including "the Store House now occupied by the said Drum on California Street."⁴ Two years later, Drum sold his interest to Alexander Martin,⁵--who also acquired McMannus' interest in the lot, thus securing a clear title to the land.⁶ Martin had been a blacksmith, whose shop was originally located on California Street behind the Eldorado Saloon.⁷ By 1863, he had moved to a larger building on the northeast corner of California and Fourth Streets;⁸ the shops on the block of California Street between Oregon and Third Streets had in the meantime become devoted to trade rather than industrial activities.

Alexander Martin subdivided his newly acquired land, selling the west half of the lot to George Schumpf and the east half to John Miller.⁹ In the deed to Schumpf, Martin retained the right to use the west wall for building purposes, free of all charges. Therefore, when Martin sold his rights in the corner lot to the Masonic Lodge, he also conveyed to the Lodge the right to use the party wall. Since the 1874 construction records of the Masonic Lodge refer to "Schumpf's brick building now being erected," Schumpf evidently proceeded with the construction of his shop in 1874.¹⁰ Since the facades of the two buildings are continuous, John Miller probably decided to erect his new building at the same time.

Schumpf may originally have opened his barbershop in his new brick building, but by 1879 he had moved to the Masonic Building¹¹ and was renting his own building to G.W. Frey as a shoemaker's shop.¹²

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In 1880, the Democratic Times noted that George Schumpf had had stone gutters constructed on his brick building.¹³ A year later, he mortgaged the building to Thomas Chavner¹⁴ and a year later again, to Kaspar Kubli.¹⁵ The first mortgage was foreclosed, however, and the building was sold at a sheriff's sale.¹⁶

John Miller was a gunsmith and hardware merchant who had emigrated from Germany in 1860.¹⁷ He established himself early in Jacksonville and his business continued into the 1880s. In addition to his business interests, he owned a large house on Main Street.

FOOTNOTES

1
The Oregon Intelligencer, June 20, 1863.

2
"Map of Jacksonville," 1868.

3
Jacksonville Reveille Weekly, January 4, 1868.

4
Jackson County Deeds, May 18, 1872.

5
Ibid., April 29, 1874.

6
Ibid., April 29, 1874.

7
Kuchel and Dressel, "Jacksonville, Jackson County, Oregon T[erritory]," 1856. This view of the town was distributed locally by W.W. Fowler and C.C. Beekman.

8
The Oregon Intelligencer, June 20, 1863.

9
Jackson County Deeds, July 6, 1874 and July 8, 1874.

10
"Arrangement between J.N.T. Miller, John Miller, A.M. Berry, and C.C. Beekman, building committee for Warren Lodge No. 10 and G.H. Young for provision of bricks for bake oven of Viet Schutz property," September 28, 1874, Warren Lodge MSS, Oregon Historical Society MSS 965.

11 The Democratic Times, October 24, 1879.

12 Ibid., October 24, 1879.

13 Ibid., August 20, 1880.

14 Jackson County Deeds, February 5, 1881.

15 Ibid., July 18, 1882.

16 Ibid., July 18, 1882. Notation attached to mortgage.

17 A.G. Walling, History of Southern Oregon, Comprising Jackson, Josephine, Douglas, Curry, and Coos Counties (Portland, Oregon: The Publishing House of A.G. Walling, 1884), biographical appendix.

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. Description of Exterior:

1. Number of stories: Both are one-story buildings.
2. Number of bays: Each store front is four bays wide, forming a unified facade of eight bays.
3. Layout, shape: Both buildings are rectangular; because of an addition onto the back, the Miller Store building is deeper than the Schumpf Store building.
4. Wall construction, finish, color: The buildings are built of red brick. Neither has been painted.
5. Openings: The facade is a continuous arcade of eight bays, all of which were originally doorways. The arches are supported by piers resting on stone sills; because of the slope of the ground, the western half of the facade has shorter piers than the eastern half. The piers have individual bases of stepped brick; the capitals are stepped outward in four courses, the upper two forming an abacus. Semicircular arches spring from the tops of the piers--three courses of brick tall, they have an inner

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archivolt of two courses of headers laid radially and an outer archivolt of a single course of headers laid circumferentially. The tympanum of each arch is filled in with brick, recessed deeply from the plane of the facade. Where they remain, the doors are double leaves with two lights above single recessed panels. The openings of the eastern building have been altered, so that a single entrance bay has double doors with a transom light and windows are two-over-one-light sash.

6. Roof:

- a. Shape: The roof is flat sloping downward from north to south.
- b. Cornice: The wall rises above the arches to form a parapet. The entablature begins with a frieze of slightly projecting bricks. A single projecting course forms a base for two courses of dentils formed of bricks laid in an angular fashion, presenting a sawtooth appearance. A flat band of two courses caps the dentil courses. Above the cornice, the parapet rises five courses and has no terminal molding.

B. Description of Interior:

The interior of each building is a shop space with modern partitions and fixtures.

C. Site and Surroundings:

The structures are built along the north property lines, and their facades face north on West California Street. They are located between two-story brick buildings.

D. Original Appearance:

Originally, a canopy supported on iron brackets ran across the facades; it occupied the space between the top of the arches and the entablature. All of the openings were once doorways.

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